Financial crisis of farmers in Kerala

1979. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many farmers ended their life in various regions of Kerala due to financial crisis during 2001;

(b) if so, the details regarding the total number of such cases and the remedial measures initiated to help farmers, so as to avoid such averments in future;

(c) whether there is any plan to provide short-term credit for seasonal farm operations to needy farmers; and

(d) if so, the details regarding the amount of grant proposed to various States in the current year, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) No report has been received from the Government of Kerala in this regard.

(c) Agricultural credit is being provided to the farmers through multi-agency network consisting of Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperatives. There is already a system in existence whereby all these Rural Financial Agencies provide short-term credit for seasonal farm operations to the needy farmers in the State of Kerala.

(d) There is no proposal to provide grants to the States.

Declaring Andhra Pradesh as drought affected

1980. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the guidelines for declaration of a particular area as drought-affected;

(b) the areas or the States declared so far as drought-affected in 2001-2002, following these guidelines;

(c) whether it is a fact that a Central Team submitted a report on the conditions of deficit rainfall in Andhra Pradesh;